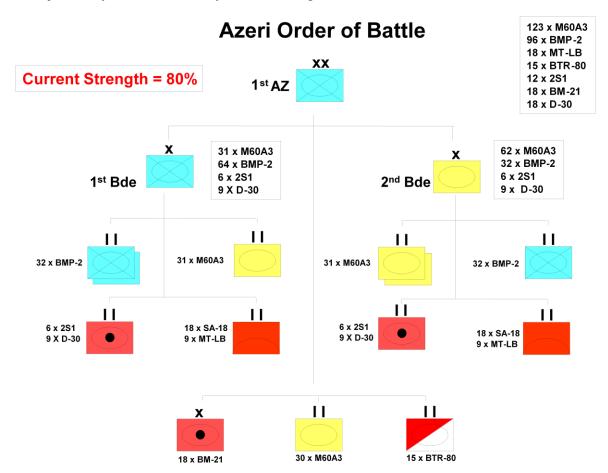
Reference: See Base OPORD and Annex B (Intelligence).

1. (U) Situation.

- a. (U) <u>Civil Defense</u>. Azerbaijan has established a civil defense organization that works from the national level down to the communities where the civil defense forces are located. The program is a joint military and civilian effort by Azerbaijan, the plan includes both a civilian and military organization. The civil defense organization is structured so that the National Civil Defense Coordinator is the key representative for the civil defense forces throughout the country and he falls under the responsibility of the Interior Ministry.
 - b. (U) Azeri Order of Battle.
- (1) (U) <u>1 AZ DIV</u>. The mechanized division is the best equipped and trained unit in the Azerbaijan Army but it is currently at 80% strength.



(2) (U) <u>Territorial Brigades</u>. The separate brigades guard the border and perform territorial protection missions are at varying states of readiness and vary in equipment.



(c) (U) Assessment.

(1) (U) <u>Summary</u>. The motorized rifle brigade is the principal combat formation. It is a smaller formation and generally considered more manageable and flexible than the former Soviet regiment and divisional structure. The evolving brigades usually consist of two to four operational battalions. Each battalion is authorized at about 450 personnel, with the composite brigades ranging in size from 3,000 to 3,500 personnel when fully manned.

There is a reserve pool of approximately 300,000 personnel that have served in the armed forces in some capacity since 1993. However, the Ministry of Defense (MOD) has not yet established a formal reserve system with structured formations. In the current crisis, it is unlikely that any can be mobilized and serve as individual personnel replacements for under-manned army units, or be organized into light infantry or support formations.

(2) (U) <u>Equipment</u>. The number of combat systems in the Army is heavily influenced by the equipment limits of the Conventional Forces Europe (CFE) Treaty, which establishes limits

on the numbers of tanks, armored personnel carriers, artillery pieces and attack helicopters they may maintain. These limits went into effect in 1992, but the Azerbaijani Army did not reduce their equipment holdings to the prescribed limits until 2000.

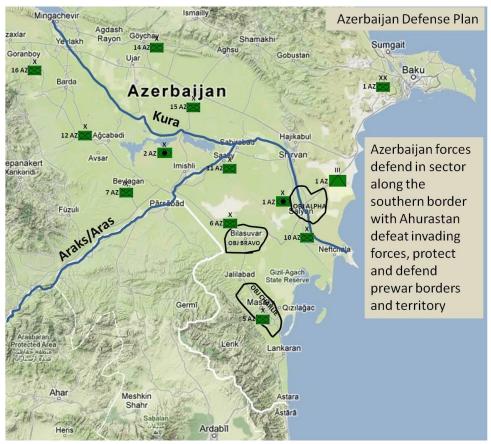
(3) (U) Readiness. The Azerbaijani Army is a better organized and more professional service than it was in the mid-1990s but it continues to suffer huge problems in training, equipping and motivating its soldiers. The Army is still hindered by corruption in its ranks and a highly politicized officer corps. The quality and readiness of much of the Army's equipment is also a problem, as two decades of poor maintenance and chronic shortages of spare parts means that many systems are not operational, cannibalized for parts, or operating at less than optimal status. Moreover, much of the older-generation equipment is in need of systems upgrades and modernization. As a result, the readiness levels and operational capabilities vary significantly between units. The 1st AZ Mechanized Division and 1st AZ AT Regiment appear to have the greatest capability and can effectively conduct maneuver warfare. The other brigades are less operationally ready and only one of the battalions in each brigade is generally capable of conducting motorized or mechanized operations. The 5th AZ and 10th AZ Territorial Brigades are located in the Talysh region in the south, the 14th AZ Territorial Brigade is in the Lezgin region in the northeast, the 8th AZ Territorial Brigade is in NAKHCHIVAN, and the remaining separate brigades are currently based along the NAGARNO-KARABAKH border where they conduct border security and man checkpoints. Most brigades are garrisoned in local villages and they draw their supplies from the local area. Movement of these brigades from their peacetime locations to their proposed defensive wartime positions would be a challenge to the Army. With only a logistics company per brigade, sustainment outside the unit's garrison locations would not be possible without Coalition support. The 1st AZ Mechanized Division and 1st AT Regiment currently provide security in BAKU (Capital Defense) and patrol the oil region. Movement to the KURA River line would be less of an obstacle but logistics is still limited with the only support provided by the 1st Sustainment Brigade.

Given the poor state of readiness, Azerbaijan military planners have been seeking U.S. assistance for the Azerbaijan Air Force, arguing that the new focus on maritime security would be bolstered by an air patrol and surveillance capability over the Caspian Sea. This effort has not resulted in any substantial US investment or assistance to date, due to a general U.S. strategy to refrain from any move that may serve to bolster Azerbaijan offensive capabilities.

(4) (U) Operational Art and Tactical Doctrine. The Army was deeply involved in an initial effort in 2003 and 2004 to develop a new and more realistic doctrine and tactics in an effort to shed the reliance on the Soviet doctrine that dominated the armed forces operations during most of the conflict with Armenia over NAGORNO-KARABAKH. Despite these early efforts, such reforms in doctrine and tactics were abandoned by 2005-2006, and modified Soviet tactics remain the norm. Part of the problem is that the Army and its leaders are not trained to effectively manage the more complex combined arms tactics, nor are the units equipped or prepared to execute these tactics. The problem is compounded by poorly trained and motivated conscript soldiers and little or no large unit or combined arms training being conducted.

The Azerbaijan Air Force has not completed development of its own operational art or tactical doctrine manuals. Turkish and other Western Air Force advisors have been working closely with them, but AAF's evolving tactical doctrine still closely resembles that of the Soviet air force. Close Air Support (CAS) operations predominate. In the absence of naval air, the AAF must also perform maritime support operations to protect the country's energy infrastructure on the Caspian Sea. The operational art and tactical doctrine for these types of missions must be developed. Counter air and air defense operations depend on the combined capabilities of their few fixed-wing fighters and their aging ground-based air defense systems.

(5) (U) <u>Training.</u> Roughly 18 to 20 percent of serving personnel desert their units. Another 20 % of the total number of conscripts are constantly in hiding. As a result, the Army has been undermanned. Consequently, Azerbaijan was forced to extend the service term for sergeants and soldiers illegally and this has brought about an increase in the number of deserters and poor discipline. In particular, instead of 18 month enlistments that are stipulated by the law, servicemen have to serve 36 to 42 months. In late 2013, the number of citizens of draft age who, in compliance with requirements of the law on the Fundamentals of the Military Service Draft, had been granted a deferment from the draft exceeded the number of draftees who had been called into active military service by the military commissariat during the course of the year. Poor living conditions and morale contribute to high desertion rates, and the short-term of service for conscripts adds to unit training burdens and problems at unit level.



2. (U) <u>Mission.</u>

a. (U) <u>Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense (MOD) Mission Statement.</u> On order, Azerbaijan forces defend in sector along the Southern border with Ahurastan to defeat Ahurastan forces and protect and maintain Azerbaijan pre-war borders and territory.

3. (U) Execution.

- a. (U) Azerbaijan Concept of Operations.
- (1) (U) Azerbaijan Commander's Intent. The purpose of this operation is to defeat Ahurastan aggression south of the KURA and ARAKS and to maintain the integrity of our territory Rivers to provide freedom of maneuver to coalition forces and to protect the capital region. The key tasks are: the southern mechanized brigades (5th, 6th, and 7th) and the second echelon brigades (10th, 11th, and 12th) will establish the first echelon tactical zone of defense along the border to defeat the Ahurastan penetrations. The 1st Mechanized Division with the 1st AT brigade is prepared to defeat penetrations north of the KURA River in the east to protect BAKU and the oil resource areas. The 8th Mechanized Brigade fights an economy of force operation to defend the NAKHCHIVAN province. The 14th Mechanized Brigade secures the northern LOC between BAKU and GANJA. The 15th and 16th Mechanized Brigades in the

second echelon tactical zone secure key LOC nodes and defeat penetrations of the first echelon tactical zone of defense if necessary. Our end state is Ahurastan forces defeated then cleared from Azerbaijan territory, and the border restored with our forces prepared to defend against additional Ahurastan attacks; the citizens of Azerbaijan are secure and daily life returns to normal.

- (2) (U) <u>Azerbaijan Air Force</u>. The Azerbaijan Air Force is tasked to defend the borders from air incursion, provide close air support to the ground forces & tactical transport within the battle-space, provide transport and liaison for the government, and patrol Caspian Sea areas within the Azerbaijani economic zone. Priority is given to the close air support role. Air defense units are tasked to support AAF in defending the country's air borders and strategic targets: airbases, government headquarters and critical infrastructure.
 - (3) (U) General Ground Forces. Azerbaijan forces will conduct operations in three phases:
- (a) (U) Phase I Pre-conflict preparation and transition to war: M-day to D-day. Azerbaijan territorial brigades establish tactical zones of defense along the border; first echelon forces prepare positions and obstacles along the international border to disrupt and delay Ahurastan forces and to prevent Ahurastan forces from establishing river crossings along the ARAKS and KURA Rivers in order to facilitate coalition counter-offensive operations. The 1st Mechanized Division with the 1st AT Regiment prepare defenses north of the KURA River to defeat Ahurastan penetrations oriented on BAKU in order to protect the capital region and oil resource areas. Combined Air Forces (CAF) patrols the border until H-hour to prevent enemy aerial reconnaissance from detecting Azerbaijan dispositions (CAF comprises the Azerbaijan Air Force and the Turkish F-16 squadron in BAKU).
- (b) (U) Phase II Defense: D-day to D+15 (estimated). The 5th, 6th, and 7th AZ Territorial Brigades defend along the Azerbaijan-Ahurastan border to the KURA River to disrupt an Ahurastan attack and deny enemy crossings into Azerbaijan by reinforcing natural and manmade choke points. 5th, 6th, and 7th AZ Territorial Brigades will establish security to provide early warning. Brigades are responsible for their own front, flank and rear security. The 10th, 11th, and 12th AZ Territorial Brigades in the second echelon tactical defensive zone will occupy attack positions and be prepared to defeat penetrations of forward brigades. The 1st Mechanized Division with the 1st AT Regiment defeat penetrations north of the KURA River in the east to protect BAKU and the oil resource areas. The 15th and 16th AZ Territorial Brigades establish a second echelon defensive north of the KURA and ARAKS Rivers in order to retain sufficient maneuver space for commitment of coalition land maneuver forces and as required, defeat penetrations of the first echelon tactical zone of defense. The 14th AZ Territorial Brigade provides LOC and pipeline security between BAKU and GANJA and YEVLAK to ensure continued ground communication and oil flow from the Aspheron Peninsula. The 8th AZ Territorial Brigade defends to preserve the NAKHCHIVAN province. At H-hour, Combined Air Forces (CAF) establish local air superiority over Azerbaijan territory and begin interdiction of Ahurastan first-echelon maneuver forces (CAF comprises the Azerbaijan Air Force and the

Turkish F-16 squadron in BAKU and any JTF Air Forces in theater). Fires will be employed primarily to place counterfire on the IFC and first-echelon division assault forces.

(c) Phase III – Counterattack/establishment of borders and conflict termination: D+15 to D+30 (estimated). Azerbaijan forces defend along the KURA River and secure ground LOCs to facilitate coalition force employment. Coalition JTF maneuver forces complete staging operations vicinity GANJA and KKIRVOBAD and counterattack to destroy remaining Ahurastan forces within Azerbaijan territory in order to restore the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. Combined Air Forces (CAF) establish local air superiority over Azerbaijan territory and begin interdiction of Ahurastan IFC communications and control nodes and fires assets. Coalition Artillery provides SEAD to protect CAF and rotary wing aviation assets.

(4) (U) Locations, Task and Purpose.

Name	Type	Echelon	MGRS	Task	Purpose
1 st AZ	AT	HQ BDE	39SUE4501	Defeat enemy attack	Deny access to BAKU/oil sector
1st AZ FA BDE	Field Artillery Brigade	HQ BDE	39S TD9582	Support 6th Bde, then 10th Bde	Prevent AH from massing indirect fires on mvr.
1st AZ DIV	Infantry Mechanized	HQ DIV	39T UE6552	Defeat AH attack oriented on Baku/oil sector	Prevent AH influence on Baku/oil sector
1st BDE 1st AZ DIV	Infantry Mechanized	HQ BDE	39T UE9364	Defeat AH attack oriented on BAKU/oil secret.	Deny enemy influence on Baku/oil sector
2nd BDE 1st AZ DIV	Armor	HQ BDE	39S UE6425	Defeat AH attack oriented on BAKU/Oil sector, ground and amphib. attack	Deny enemy influence on Baku/oil sector
2nd AZ FA BDE	Field Artillery Brigade	HQ BDE	39S QK5028	Support 7th Bde, then 12th Bde	Deny AH crossing of ARAKS and KURA
5th AZ	Infantry Mechanized	HQ BDE	39S TD 9707	Block AH attack	Protect the flank of 6th and 10th Bdes
6th AZ	Infantry Mechanized	HQ BDE	39S TD7278	Delay AH forces for 24 hours	Facilitate destruction of lead
7th AZ	Infantry Mechanized	HQ BDE	38S QK 2002	Block enemy crossings of Araks	Deny AH crossing ARAKS
8th AZ	Infantry Mechanized	HQ BDE	38S NJ 3641	Defeat AH attacks on NAKHCHIVAN	Preserve NAKHCHIVAN
10th AZ	Infantry Mechanized	HQ BDE	39S UD2467	Defeat AH penetrations of 5th Bde	Deny AH crossing of KURA

11th	Infantry	HQ BDE	39S TE8615	Defeat AH penetrations of	Deny enemy crossing
AZ	Mechanized			6th Bde	of KURA and
					ARAKS
12th	Infantry	HQ BDE	38T PK 9436	Defeat enemy penetrations	Deny AH crossing of
AZ	Mechanized			of 7th Bde	ARAKS
14th	Infantry	HQ BDE	38T QL4602	Secure LOC nodes	Provide freedom of
AZ	Mechanized				movement
15th	Infantry	HQ BDE	39T TE 5354	Establish a second echelon	Provide freedom of
AZ	Mechanized			defensive zone.	movement
16th	Infantry	HQ BDE	38T PK5787	Establish a second echelon	Provide freedom of
ΑZ	Mechanized			defensive zone.	maneuver

4. (U) Sustainment. N/A

5. (U) Command and Signal. N/A